New Method to fight brain cancer

1124. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the scientists in Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, found a new method to fight brain cancer;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) which are the twenty genes that have been identified by the scientist at the IISc to fight brain cancer;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the scientists are thinking of developing a DNA chip to predict the progression of brain cancer in a patient; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research has informed that as per a recent publication from Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, expression of several thousand genes in tissue samples of brain cancer were studied. The investigators have informed that using microarray expressions and other valid techniques they have identified 67 genes including obteonectin, vimentin, seemaphorin 4D, B2 microglobulin, HES, jagged 1 etc.

(d) and (e) Research for newer ways of treatment and remediation of cancer diseases including brain cancer is an ongoing process. Current level of research is insufficient to predict the possibility of developing a DNA chip for the purpose of predicting progression of brain cancer in a patient.

Filaria Eradication Programme

1125. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether government have observed the National Filaria Day on the 11th November, 2005;

(b) if so, the programmes launched at national level for control and eradication of filaria;

(c) the approximate number of people suffering from filaria in various parts of the country at present and the reasons for the spread of this disease;

(d) the measures taken by Government for ensuring their effective treatment;